IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel Claims 16, 18, and 19 without prejudice.

Amend Claim 17 as follows:

17. (twice amended)   A method for the inhibition of transmission of a hepatitis B virus to a cell, comprising contacting the cell with an effective concentration of a peptide having [a] the formula [selected from the group consisting of]:

        X-PLLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGGTTVCLGQNSQSP-Z;
        X-PLLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGT-Z;
        X-LLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTT-Z;
        X-LVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTV-Z;
        X-LQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNGLGGTTVCL-Z;
        X-QAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLG-Z;
        X-AGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQ-Z;
        X-GFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQN-Z;
        X-FFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNS-Z;
        X-FLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNSQ-Z;
        X-LLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNSQS-Z;
        X-PGYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTG
           PCRTCMTT-Z;
        X-PGYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGML-Z;
        X-GYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLP-Z
        X-YRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPV-Z;
        X-RWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVC-Z;
        X-WMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCP-Z;
        X-MCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPI-Z;
        X-CLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLI-Z;
        X-LRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIP-Z;
        X-RRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPG-Z;
        X-RFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGS-Z;
        X-FIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIGGSS-Z;
        X-IIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSST-Z;
        X-IFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTS-Z;
        X-FLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTST-Z;
        X-LFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTG-Z;
        X-FILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGP-Z;
        X-ILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPC-Z;
        X-LLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCR-Z;
        X-LLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRT-Z;
        X-LCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTC-Z;
        X-CLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTCM-Z;
        X-LIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTCMT-Z; or
        X-IFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTCMTT-Z;
                        (SEQ ID NOS: 239-273, respectively)

in which:

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amino acid residues are presented by the single-letter code;

X comprises an amino group, an acetyl group, a 9-fluorenylmethoxy-carbonyl group, a hydrophobic group, or a macromolecule carrier group;

Z comprises a carboxyl group, an amido group, a hydrophobic group, or a macromolecular carrier group for an effective period of time so that no infection of the cell by the virus occurs.

[Add new Claims 20-55, as follows:]

--20. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

X-PLLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGGTTVCLGQNSQSP-Z
(SEQ ID NO: 239).

21. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

X-PLLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGT-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 240).

22. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

X-LLVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTT-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 241).

23. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

X-LVLQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTV-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 242).

24. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

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X-LQAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNGLGGTTVCL-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 243).

7   25.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-QAGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLG-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 244).

8   26.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-AGFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQ-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 245).

9   27.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-GFFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQN-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 246).

10   28.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-FFLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNS-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 247).

11   29.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-FLLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNSQ-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 248).

12   30.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-LLTRILTIPQSLDSWWTSLNFLGGTTVCLGQNSQS-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 249).

13   31.   (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-PGYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTG
PCRTCMTT-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 250).

32. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-PGYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGML-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 251).

33. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-GYRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLP-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 252).

34. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-YRWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPV-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 253).

35. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-RWMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVC-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 254).

36. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-WMCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCP-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 255).

37. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-MCLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPI-Z   (SEQ ID NO: 256).

38. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-CLRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLI-Z (SEQ ID NO: 257).

38. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-LRRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIP-Z (SEQ ID NO: 258).

40. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-RRFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPG-Z (SEQ ID NO: 259).

41. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-RFIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGS-Z (SEQ ID NO: 260).

42. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-FIIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIGGSS-Z (SEQ ID NO: 261).

43. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-IIFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSST-Z (SEQ ID NO: 262).

44. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-IFLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTS-Z (SEQ ID NO: 263).

45. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide
has the formula

X-FLFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTST-Z (SEQ ID NO: 264).

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28. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-LFILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTG-Z (SEQ ID NO: 265).

29. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-FILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGP-Z (SEQ ID NO: 266).

30. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-ILLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPC-Z (SEQ ID NO: 267).

31. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-LLLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCR-Z (SEQ ID NO: 268).

32. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-LLCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRT-Z (SEQ ID NO: 269).

33. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-LCLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTC-Z (SEQ ID NO: 270).

34. (new)   The method of Claim 17 wherein the peptide has the formula

   X-CLIFLLVLLDYQGMLPVCPLIPGSSTSTGPCRTCM-Z (SEQ ID NO: 271).

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